

When Kids Hate Church Nursery: 4 Pointers for Parents

Apr 23rd by Mimi Bullock



You love attending church but dread the nursery tug-of-war with your toddler. She likes going to daycare and even likes the occasional Mom's Day Out program; however, come Sunday, she's not a happy camper.

Who knows why but this phenomena happens at churches every week. Teary-eyed Moms and

Dads (been there guys, I understand) hope for the best but experience the worst, often leaving a screaming child behind only to be paged in 10 to 20 minutes. So what do you do when your kids hate nursery class?

1. Remember that adjustment times vary.

I have two boys who are as different as night and day. When my oldest son was a toddler, an empty box could entertain him for hours. He was peaceful, easy to please and didn't mind nursery one bit. As a matter of fact, he couldn't wait to say, "Bye, Mommy. Now go!" Not the youngest. He cried about everything for the first five years of his life. If I had to take a restroom break, it better be when Dad was around. Nursery was the pits, but over time, he adjusted. With one child, nursery was never a challenge, the other child ran to the door and held on to my leg every time I tried to leave. No matter how loving and patient you are, leaving kids in the nursery can tax your nerves. You have to be willing to go the long haul.

2. Nursery is a personal decision.

Not every parent wants to leave their kids in nursery class—and that's okay! Naturally, as the children's ministry director at my church I would love to see your child there but if you decide